

MEDIA ADVISORY  
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### **JAEGER APPROVES YOUTH MEASURE FOR NOVEMBER BALLOT**

**Bismarck, N.D.** - Secretary of State Al Jaeger announced his office has completed the review of the petitions proposing a statutory initiative relating to student loan reimbursements and tax credits, also known as the "youth" initiative.

"Our review shows that the petitions contain signatures of qualified electors in excess of the required amount (12,844)," said Jaeger. "Therefore, the initiative will be placed upon the November 5 general election ballot as a statutory initiated measure."

Jaeger's office reviewed 457 petitions and the signatures of almost 18,000 persons who signed the petitions submitted by the sponsoring committee on July 30. As a part of that review process, randomly selected signers were also mailed postcards asking if they had signed the petition in accordance with state law.

"Our review process is thorough and exhaustive," said Jaeger. "Each petition is measured and evaluated against the same set of criteria and standards. Judging from our review of the petitions and the responses of the randomly sampled signers, I am confident this petition was circulated according to the guidelines and standards set out by state law."

Although the "youth" measure has been approved for inclusion on the November ballot, it will not be assigned an official ballot title and number until Jaeger's office has completed its review of the pending constitutional initiative petition allowing a state lottery<sup>1</sup>. Jaeger anticipates his office will make a final determination on the lottery initiative in the next two weeks and before his review deadline passes on September 11.

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Attached, please find a copy of Jaeger's letter addressed to Roger Johnson, chairman of the sponsoring committee, acknowledging the completion of the Secretary of State's review and the approval of the measure. Also included is an updated timeline for the measure along with a summary of the signature review process completed by the Secretary of State's office.

Questions concerning the review process or the attached summary of the signature review process should be directed to Lee Ann Oliver, Elections Specialist, in the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's office at (701) 328-4146.

<sup>1</sup> Constitutional measures are numbered first, then statutory initiatives are second, followed by referred measures. All measures are numbered consecutively within their respective categories in the order received. Because the pending lottery initiative is constitutional, it will be placed on the ballot ahead of the "youth" measure, should it be approved by the Secretary of State's office for placement on the November 5 general election ballot.